A force to be reckoned with

community-based women’s organizations as **sustainable** and **empowered** service providers for survivors of gender-based violence in eastern DRC

Katie Robinette, International Rescue Committee
Psychosocial support for survivors via **case management** is the backbone of the IRC’s Women’s Protection & Empowerment program in the **Congo**
Quality services

Case management

Sustainability

Community accountability
Local NGOs 2013 CBOs community-based organizations
Local NGOs

+ higher education level
+ counseling experience
+ employed
- external to community
- depend on external funding

CBOs
community-based organizations

- low education level
- no counseling experience
? volunteer
+ embedded in community
+ potential for economic autonomy
Quality services

Case management

Sustainability

Community accountability
Cases of rape reported to NGO/CBO partners within 72 hours of the incident
Type of GBV reported to NGO/CBO partners, 2011 - 2014

- Psychological violence
- Denial of opportunities
- Forced marriage
- Physical assault
- Sexual assault
- Rape
Perpetrators reported to NGO/CBO partners, 2012 - 2014

- **2012**
  - Intimate partner/ex-partner: 41%
  - Other family member: 32%
  - Other community member: 10%
  - No relation/unknown: 12%
  - Member of an armed group: 6%

- **2013**
  - Intimate partner/ex-partner: 29%
  - Other family member: 30%
  - Other community member: 11%
  - No relation/unknown: 10%
  - Member of an armed group: 12%

- **2014**
  - Intimate partner/ex-partner: 20%
  - Other family member: 16%
  - Other community member: 11%
  - No relation/unknown: 34%
  - Member of an armed group: 19%
Case management

Quality services

Community accountability

Sustainability
Quality services

Case management

Sustainability
Case management

Quality services

Solidarity

Sustainability
Case management

- Quality services
- Solidarity
- Status

Sustainability
Quality services
Case management
Solidarity
Status
Community norms
Sustainability
Evidence & Scale-Up: Next Steps

- Develop and test theory of change
- Document and operationalize the process toward sustainability
force to be reckoned with

*Fig.* someone or something that is important and powerful and must not be ignored

http://www.rescue.org/defy

http://www.rescue.org/blog/advocating-change-drc-congolese-women-head-united-states

http://www.rescue-uk.org/international-news/seeds-change-inspiring-work-womens-organisations-drc